

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the following listing of the claims, which replaces all previous versions or listings of claims.

Listing of the claims:

1. (Currently amended) An external preparation for skin which comprises ~~an aqueous solution comprising~~ glycolic acid and polyethylene glycol having a polymerization degree of from 2000 to 50000, wherein the preparation is an aqueous solution and has a pH of 2.0 or less.

2-4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously presented) The external preparation for skin according to claim 1 wherein the preparation has a pH of 1.4 or less.

6. (Currently amended) An external preparation for skin which comprises ~~an aqueous solution comprising~~ glycolic acid and polyvinyl alcohol, wherein the preparation is an aqueous solution and has a pH of 2.0 or less.

7. (Previously presented) The external preparation of claim 6, wherein the preparation has a pH of 1.4 or less.

8. (Previously presented) A method of chemically peeling skin comprising contacting the skin with the preparation of claim 1.

9. (Previously presented) A method of chemically peeling skin comprising contacting the skin with the preparation of claim 5.

10. (Previously presented) A method of chemically peeling skin comprising contacting the skin with the preparation of claim 6.

11. (Previously presented) A method of chemically peeling skin comprising contacting the skin with the preparation of claim 7.

12. (Previously presented) The external preparation of claim 1, wherein the polyethylene glycol has a polymerization degree of 45,000.